

News From MAIENstreet

A Neighborhood Newsletter From Councilman Brian Maienschein



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Proudly Representing the District Five

Carmel Mountain Ranch Mira Mesa Rancho Bernardo Sabre Springs San Pasqual

Scripps Ranch

Sorrento Mesa

Communities of:

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Maienschein

Recycling Ordinance is Critical to Protecting our Future

From our sunny beaches on the coast to the beautiful mountains and valleys in the east, it is not difficult to see why San Diego is often called America's Finest City. We enjoy a host of natural wonders right here in our own backyard. As a boy growing up in San Diego, I was fortunate to enjoy the benefits of these resources and now as a Councilmember and father, I am committed to ensuring that San Diego remains a beautiful and vibrant city for my daughters and all of our children.

It is for this reason that I have become increasingly concerned with the amounts of waste that are dumped everyday into our local landfills. In 1989, the State passed Assembly Bill 939 which requires the City to recycle 50 percent of our waste. To date, we have not reached this goal.

This poses two large problems for San Diego. First, without reaching the 50 percent diversion rate, our City may be exposed to large fines from the State. In addition, our landfills are quickly running out of room, and if something isn't done, San Diegans may soon have to pay high prices to truck our trash to another state or county.

It has become very clear that additional measures are necessary and for this reason I am pleased to announce a new recycling ordinance was recently adopted by the City Council. This ordinance specifically requires developers to recycle 50 percent of the waste generated from their construction, gradually increasing to 75 percent over time. This is significant, considering that 35 percent of all the waste that is put into our local landfills is construction and demolition debris.

In order to make the implementation of this ordinance more efficient, the City is constructing a facility that will have the capability to accept mixed construction and demolition debris, therefore preventing the developer from having to sort the waste on site. This facility will provide one drop-off location which should make the recycling process much easier and more effective.

I am confident that this critical step is necessary for the reduction of waste and the extended life of our landfills. I commend those who are already doing their part and the many residents who diligently fill their recycling bins. Our increased efforts to recycle will help to ensure a clean and beautiful San Diego for our kids.



Maienschein Celebrates Opening of New Wing at Casa

I attended the grand opening of the new dementia care wing of the Palmer Special Care Residence at Casa de Las Campanas on Thursday, December 1, 2005.

Freda Palmer, a 100-year-old resident, generously donated \$2 million toward the \$8 million facility. The new wing can accommodate 27 residents and it is designed for seniors with mild to moderate levels of Alzheimer's and other dementia-related illnesses.

I would like to thank Freda and the other generous residents of Casa de Las Campanas for making this facility possible. This will greatly benefit the residents of our community.



Pictured with Councilmember Maienschein are Freda Palmer, a Casa resident, and Nick Torres of the San Diego North Chamber of Commerce.

Maienschein Lights Christmas Tree in Scripps Ranch



On December 11, 2005, I had the pleasure of leading the countdown to the lighting of the Scripps Ranch Christmas Tree at Jerabek Park. Joining me at the event were Bob Dingeman of the Scripps Ranch Civic Association, the Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts of Scripps Ranch, members of the United States Marine Corps and the Marshall Middle School Band.

It was great seeing so many people there! Special congratulations to Maia Moran of Girl Scout Troop #8145, who designed the cover of the song booklet for the event. Pictured in the photo above are Gunnery Sgt. Torres; and the evening's master of ceremonies, Keri Conlon and Natasha McCoy of Girl Scout Troop #8193.



Maienschein Announces New Kiosk at Lake Miramar

On December 3, 2005, I was pleased to participate in the unveiling of a new educational kiosk at Lake Miramar. The kiosk was designed to inform lake visitors about local wildlife and educate them about safe ways to fish and feed water fowl.

In addition, it features pictures and descriptions of animals at the lake, and includes information on Project Wildlife, a nonprofit organization focused on rehabilitating injured, orphaned and sick wildlife.



Councilmember Maienschein is pictured with (from left to right): Dawn Wilson president of Project Wildlife; Aurie Kryzuda, vice president of Project Wildlife and coordinator of the Project; and Ryan Mulvey, the Boy Scout who constructed the kiosk.

Maienschein Brings Freedom Shrine to City Hall

Recently I was proud to partner with the Business Exchange Club of San Diego to bring the Freedom Shrine to City Hall. The Freedom Shrine is a collection of some of the most significant historical documents since the birth of our Nation, including the Declaration of Independence, Constitution, the Bill of Rights, the Emancipation Proclamation, and Martin Luther King's "I Have a Dream" speech.

These documents have guided us in the development of our political and legal systems during the last 230 years, and the words of these documents have established for us what it means to be free, to be just and to be American, and they define who we are as a Nation.

They set out higher ideals that we continually try to attain and they will forever define our strength, our unity and our perseverance to protect the freedoms that we all share.

We hope to find a permanent home for this exhibition at Mira Mesa High School and I hope that you'll join me for that dedication in the near future.



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It's a pleasure to serve you on the San Diego City Council!